

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Hiroaki ITO *et al.*

Title: A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR  
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6  
ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/677,227

Filing Date: 10/3/2003

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

Confirmation Number: 8597

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

This communication follows Applicant's Amendment and Reply of February 22, 2010, and Examiner Mertz's telephone call of March 5, 2010, concerning the Final Office Action dated September 22, 2009. A Petition for the third month Extension of Time, and the required fees, accompany the response. This filing fulfills the requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 for a "submission" to accompany a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: